FILE NO. 170426

RESOLUTION NO. 139-17

[Condemning Anti-LGBT Actions in the Chechen Republic]

Resolution condemning anti-LGBT actions in the Chechen Republic and joining in solidarity with all LGBT Russians in their fight for lives, dignity and respect.

WHEREAS, It is the duty of all governments, democratically elected or otherwise, to ensure that human and civil rights, such as the freedom of assembly and expression, as well as freedom from physical violence at the hands of the state, is afforded to all citizens; and,

WHEREAS, When a government targets minority groups for persecution, abuse and murder that government is committing crimes against humanity; and

WHEREAS, On April 4, 2017, the Russian news outlet Novaya Gazeta first reported that gay men in the Chechen Republic (Chechnya) are being arrested by police, and being sent to de facto concentration camps; and

WHEREAS, The men sent to these concentration camps are reporting to have been tortured to get the names of other gay men for further arrests, and three of these men have reportedly died at the hands of the police; and

WHEREAS, Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov, often using Instagram, has actively chosen to erase the existence of gay Chechens in public commentary by claiming they do not exist, and at the same time inferring families would murder them in honor killings if gay men were in Chechnya; and

WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco has historically been at the forefront of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and sexual and gender minority social justice, human and civil rights; and

Supervisors Sheehy; Ronen BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WHEREAS, San Francisco has become the beacon of hope for so many LGBT people fleeing hostility, persecution and violence in the United States and across the world, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns the government sanctioned persecution, torture and murder of gay men in the Chechen Republic, and joins in solidarity with all LGBT Russians in their fight for lives, dignity and respect; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests that the California State Legislature also censure the Chechen government sanctioned persecution of gay men; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors requests that our federal legislative delegation take action to encourage the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to create protocols for expedited asylum status for individuals fleeing persecution due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.



City and County of San Francisco Tails Resolution

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 170426

Date Passed: April 18, 2017

Resolution condemning anti-LGBT actions in the Chechen Republic and joining in solidarity with all LGBT Russians in their fight for lives, dignity and respect.

April 18, 2017 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Breed, Cohen, Farrell, Fewer, Kim, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Sheehy, Tang and Yee

File No. 170426

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 4/18/2017 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

Mayor

4/28/2017

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

4/28/17 Date